



2007 "VOLUNTEERS WORKING WITH INVASIVES" GRANTS REPORT FORM

Display Report

PROJECT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Project Title:	Early Detection Rapid Response, Monitoring and Mapping of High Priority Invasive Species with Nisqually NWRC Weed Warriors	
Region: Use region number ONLY	1	
Station:	Nisqually NWRC	
Contact Person: Name and Phone Number	Jean Takekawa, 360-753-9467	
Project Description: (Up to 250 words)	This project continues a successful program of early detection and rapid response, monitoring and mapping of invasive species on Nisqually NWRC (NNWRC) by Weed Warrior volunteers. Efforts focus on detecting, mapping, treating, and monitoring new infestations of highest priority invasive plants. Numerous species pose substantial threats and require an early detection rapid response program to preclude new infestations from becoming established. Monitoring and mapping locations and treatment areas of more established and widespread weeds is beneficial to control the spread of established weeds. This program hinges on an AmeriCorps intern coordinating the volunteer effort to detect, map, treat, and monitor invasive species utilizing Refuge GPS and GIS capabilities to collect data and maintain databases and maps.	
List of Invasives Species Targeted:	Common Name	Scientific Name
	purple loosestrife	<i>lythrum salicaria</i>
	gorse	<i>ulex europaeus</i>
	scotch broom	<i>cytisus scoparius</i>
	poison hemlock	<i>conium maculatum</i>
	tansy ragwort	<i>senecio jacobaea</i>
	spurge laurel	<i>daphne laureola</i>
	perennial pepperweed	<i>lepidium latifolium</i>
	common burdock	<i>arctium minus</i>
	bull thistle	<i>cirsium vulgare</i>
Project Status:	Completed	
Project Completion Date or Estimated Completion Date: (mm/dd/yyyy)	09/30/2008	

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

Volunteer Affiliation: (Check all that apply)	VA_AmeriCorps	VA_CivicOrg	VA_Other
Volunteer Involvement: Describe the type of work the volunteers performed. (Up to 150 words)	The Refuge has an existing group of volunteers called the Nisqually Refuge Weed Warriors that are significant in controlling emerging weeds and a fledgling Grays Harbor NWR Refuge Weed Warrior group. Two hundred and thirty four volunteers gave over 779 hours to monitoring, surveying, removing and GPSing 29 species of invasive plants on the Refuge Complex!!! We hired an AmeriCorps-Washington Conservation Corps to coordinate volunteers, mapping efforts and complete the project work started in FY2007 and finished in FY2008.		
Total Number of Volunteers:	234		
Total Number of Volunteer Hours:	779		
Partnerships: List both new and existing partnerships utilized in this project. (Up to 150 words).	The Refuge Complex falls within the Chehalis River and Nisqually River Cooperative Weed Management Areas and partners include Grays Harbor, Lewis, Thurston and Pierce County Weed Boards, a number of state and county agencies, NGOs and Tribes. In addition, Washington Conservation Corps and the Nisqually Friends Group are significant contributing partners.		

PROJECT RESULTS

Project Results: Give an overview of the results of the project. Include quantifiable measure of success, such as maps produced, efficacy of control measures, number of sites where invasions were detected early and responded to, number of community contacts, etc. (Up to 250 words).	An AmeriCorps-Washington Conservation Corps intern was hired to coordinate the Refuge Weed Warrior program for FY07-08. He organized 46 different work parties which drew in 234 volunteers; 180 of whom were first-time participants and 54 were continuing members in the Weed Warrior program. These 234 volunteers gave over 779 hours of service to the Refuge Complex!!! The AmeriCorps member conducted an additional 37 surveys and monitoring sweeps. Six volunteer training sessions were conducted over the year to get new volunteers up to speed on preferred treatment for target species and to renew the knowledge base of many continuing volunteers. Over 29 species of non-native, invasive plant were monitored and controlled by the coordinated efforts of our volunteers and AmeriCorps member. Over 280 acres were surveyed for different species at different times of the year and approximately 32 were treated. Early detection by Refuge Weed Warriors and a rapid response by staff and volunteers has lead to excellent control of some noxious weeds such as perennial pepperweed (<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>), spurge laurel (<i>Daphne laureola</i>), gorse (<i>Ulex europaeus</i>), poison hemlock (<i>Conium maculatum</i>), European holly (<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>), English ivy (<i>Hedera hibernica</i> , <i>H. helix</i>), butterfly bush (<i>Buddleia davidii</i>), purple loosestrife (<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>), teasel (<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>) and old man's beard (<i>Clematis vitalba</i>) at the Refuge Complex and will most likely allow for eradication of these species over time. This is the 2nd year the Black River purple loosestrife was surveyed twice during its bloom time and this plant now shows much lower survival rate due to our efforts. GIS database files of invasive plant infestations were updated with this year's efforts at all three Refuge locations.
Number of Acres Treated:	32
Number of Acres Inventoried and/or Mapped:	280
Number of Acres Restored:	25

BUDGET INFORMATION

Budget: Account for funds in broad categories such as equipment, volunteer stipends, travel, coordinator salary/contract, etc.

Total Grant Amount:	\$ 9,700
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Breakdown of Expenditures:

Category	Total \$ Spent	% of Total Grant
Equipment / Supplies	est. \$700	85
Chemical		
Biocontrol Agents		
Travel	est. \$1,000	10
Volunteer Stipends		
Volunteer Coordinator Salary/Contract	\$8,000	82
Restoration Materials		
Other		
TOTAL	9,700	100

Recommendations: (OPTIONAL) How useful was this program for meeting refuge invasive species objectives and how can it be improved?	This program is very helpful in getting many acres surveyed for new infestations during various times of the year. Volunteer coordination is critical to controlling new infestations, especially because of our tiny staff.
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